

Claims

1. An apparatus comprising:
 - a chassis having a front end, a rear end, a left rail, a right rail, a pair of front wheels mounted at the front end, and a pair of rear wheels mounted adjacent the rear end;
 - an operator module mounted on the chassis, at least a portion of the left rail and right rail extending from under the operator module to define an uncovered area between the left rail and right rail adjacent the front end of the chassis;
 - a first row of cutting units in front of the pair of front wheels; and
 - a second row of cutting units behind the pair of front wheels, one of the cutting units in the second row being positioned in the uncovered area between the left rail and the right rail.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the cutting units are reels rotating on generally horizontal axes.
3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the cutting units are rotary blades rotating on generally vertical axes.
4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the pair of rear wheels are driven by a power supply.
5. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the power supply is an internal combustion engine.
6. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the power supply is at least partially behind the pair of rear wheels.
7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the pair of rear wheels are steered.
8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the uncovered area is at least 5 square feet

in size.

9. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein each of the pair of front wheels are smaller in diameter than each of the pair of rear wheels.

10. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the cutting units are non-pivotal on a vertical axis.

11. An apparatus comprising:

a ladder type chassis having a front end and a rear end;

a pair of front wheels mounted to a pair of front axles mounted to the front end of the chassis;

a first row of cutting units mounted to pivotable arms extending from the front end of the chassis in front of the pair of front wheels;

a second row of cutting units mounted to pivotable arms extending from the chassis behind the pair of front wheels;

an operator module mounted to the chassis at least primarily behind the second row of cutting units;

a pair of driven and steered rear wheels mounted to the chassis adjacent the rear end of the chassis and behind the second row of cutting units; and

a power supply mounted to the chassis adjacent the rear end of the chassis and at least primarily behind the operator module and the pair of rear wheels.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the chassis includes a left rail and a right rail, a portion of each rail being under at least one of the operator module and the power supply, a portion of each rail adjacent the front end of the chassis being uncovered by either of the operator module and the power supply.

13. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the left rail and right rail are generally parallel to each other and are spaced farther apart from each other adjacent the front end of the chassis than the rear end of the chassis.

14. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein one cutting unit of the second row of cutting units is positioned between the uncovered portions of the left rail and the right rail.

15. The apparatus of claim 11 further comprising a hood over the power supply, the hood having a screened air intake.

16. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the pair of front wheels are non-driven and non-steered.

17. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the operator module is pivotably mounted to the chassis.

18. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein each cutting unit is only pivotable on at least one horizontal axis.

19. An apparatus comprising:

a chassis on which an operator module is mounted in front of a power supply, the chassis being partially covered by the operator module and the power supply;

a front pair of wheels and a rear pair of wheels mounted to the chassis, at least one pair of wheels being steerable and driven by the power supply; and

a first row and a second row of cutting units mounted on arms extending from the chassis, the first row being in front of the front pair of wheels and the second row being behind the front pair of wheels; each of the cutting units being at least primarily uncovered by the operator module and the power supply.

20. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the chassis includes a pair of rails, one cutting unit being positioned between the pair of rails.

21. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the back pair of wheels has a larger track

width than the front pair of wheels.

22. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the power supply is primarily behind the rear pair of wheels.